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Docket No. 4303-4003US3

(New) 42. A stent according to claim 1, wherein the loops in the first and second loop containing sections are 180° out of phase.

B² (New) 43. A stent according to claim 1, wherein, upon expansion, the cells on the outside of a curved section of the stent become narrower as the cells elongate, and cells inside of the curve become wider as the cells shorten.

(New) 44. A stent according to claim 6, wherein, upon expansion, the cells on the outside of a curved section of the stent become narrower as the cells elongate, and cells inside of the curve become wider as the cells shorten.

REMARKS

Allowance of this application, as amended is respectfully requested. Claims 1, and 6 have been amended and Claims 42-44 have been added to more clearly recite the Applicant's invention. No new matter has been added. Support for this amendment is found throughout the specification and drawings especially at page 15, lines 26-30 and page 16, lines 1-14; and Figure 15.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that the claims as currently amended are patentable and in condition for allowance.

Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

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AUTHORIZATION

The Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required for this response to Deposit Account 13-4500, Order No. 4303-4003US3, and is hereby petitioned for any extension of time that may be required to make this response timely. **A DUPLICATE OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.**

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.

Date: 8/5/2002

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APPENDIX

In the Claims:

(Amended) 1. A stent for holding open a blood vessel comprising:

a. a first loop containing section ,the first loop containing section arranged generally in the circumferential direction, the loops in said first loop containing section occurring at a first frequency;

b. a second loop containing section, the second loop containing section arranged generally in the circumferential direction, the loops in said second loop containing section also occurring at said first frequency; and

c. a third loop containing section the third loop containing section, the loops in said third loop containing section occurring at a second frequency that is higher than said first frequency, disposed in the generally circumferential space between said first and second loop containing sections and alternately joined to said first and second loop containing sections,

d. wherein the loops in said first, second and third loop containing sections are disposed and adapted to cooperate so that,[when the expanded stent is in a curved lumen, cells on the outside of the curve open in length, but narrow circumferentially whereas cells on the inside of the curve shorten in length but widen circumferentially] components of said third loop containing section contribute to the cell's elongating or shortening when the stent is flexed in a vessel.

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(Amended) 6. A stent for widening a vessel in the human body comprising:

- a. a plurality of first circumferential bands containing a pattern of loops at a first frequency;
- b. a plurality of second circumferential bands containing a pattern of loops at a second frequency higher than said first frequency, alternating with said first circumferential bands and periodically coupled thereto to form cells,
- c. wherein loops in said bands are disposed and adapted to cooperate so that, [when the expanded stent is in a curved lumen, cells on the outside of the curve open in length, but narrow circumferentially whereas cells on the inside of the curve shorten in length but widen circumferentially] the higher frequency band components contribute most of the deformation during flexing of the stent.

Please add the following claims:

(New) 42. A stent according to claim 1, wherein the loops in the first and second loop containing sections are 180° out of phase.

(New) 43. A stent according to claim 1, wherein, upon expansion, the cells on the outside of a curved section of the stent become narrower as the cells elongate, and cells inside of the curve become wider as the cells shorten.

(New) 44. A stent according to claim 6, wherein, upon expansion, the cells on the outside of a curved section of the stent become narrower as the cells elongate, and cells inside of the curve become wider as the cells shorten.